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1975

# Arts and Humanities: Reauthorization (1975): Report 01

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94TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 8563

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 1975

Ms. ABZUG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 to provide that the National Endowment for the Arts shall carry out an emergency program for the employment of artists during any fiscal year in which the national rate of unemployment exceeds 6.5 per centum.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Congress of the United States recognizes the con-  
4       tributions which artists make to the cultural life of each com-  
5       munity throughout the Nation as well as to the Nation as a  
6       whole; and that the talents and skills of these professional  
7       workers—painters, musicians, actors, writers, and others—  
8       make up a part of the national wealth which the Nation

1 cannot afford to lose; and that in a period of economic de-  
2 cline, private and individual support for the arts contracts  
3 causing great numbers of persons in artistic occupations to  
4 become unemployed; and that there is a record of highly  
5 successful artistic contributions to public works projects.

6 SEC. 2. The National Foundation on the Arts and Hu-  
7 manities Act of 1965 is amended by redesignating sections  
8 6 through 11 as sections 7 through 12, respectively, and by  
9 inserting immediately after section 5 thereof the following  
10 new section:

11 "EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF ARTISTS

12 "SEC. 6. (a) The Chairman of the National Endow-  
13 ment for the Arts with the advice of the National Council  
14 on the Arts, shall carry out a program, directly and through  
15 grants-in-aid to States, during any fiscal year in which the  
16 seasonally adjusted national rate of unemployment published  
17 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of  
18 Labor exceeds 6.5 per centum as determined by the Chair-  
19 man, of employment of unemployed artists in projects or  
20 productions in which—

21 "(1) funds under this section will not be used to  
22 pay artists employed in jobs in such projects or produc-  
23 tions at a rate in excess of \$10,000 per year,

24 "(2) no funds received under this section will be  
25 used to hire any artist to fill a job opening created by the

1 action of an employer in laying off or terminating the  
2 employment of any regular employee not supported  
3 under this section in anticipation of filling the vacancy so  
4 created by hiring an employee to be supported under  
5 this section.

6 “(3) not less than 90 per centum of the funds  
7 received under this section for each such project or pro-  
8 duction shall be expended only for wages and employ-  
9 ment benefits to artists employed in jobs in such project  
10 or production,

11 “(4) a substantial number of the artists employed  
12 in jobs in each such project or production shall be artists  
13 of recognized artistic ability, as determined under stand-  
14 ards established by the Chairman of the National En-  
15 dowment for the Arts, and

16 “(5) such standards for such projects or productions  
17 as the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts  
18 deems appropriate are met.

19 The program carried out under this section shall include a  
20 national program of projects and productions directly carried  
21 out by the Chairman of the National Endowment for the  
22 Arts, which shall include projects and productions in com-  
23 memoration of the bicentennial of the American Revolution.

24 “(b) In carrying out the program under subsection (a),  
25 the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts shall

1 coordinate such program with programs for public service  
2 employment under the Comprehensive Employment and  
3 Training Act of 1973 and with other appropriate public  
4 programs providing employment for unemployed individuals.

5       “(c) For purposes of this section, the term ‘artist’  
6 means any individual who, under regulations established by  
7 the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, is  
8 normally employed in the production of any one or more of  
9 the arts, and the term ‘unemployed’, when used with respect  
10 to an artist, means an artist who is an underemployed per-  
11 son or an unemployed person as defined in sections 701  
12 (a) (11) and 701 (a) (12) of the Comprehensive Employ-  
13 ment and Training Act of 1973, respectively.

14       “(d) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for  
15 purposes of this section \$20,000,000 for the fiscal year end-  
16 ing June 30, 1976.”.